

JANUARY 26 MEETING JEFF CITY

BOB PETROVIC - 68

DON PALMER - 68

JOHN AVERY - 68

JOHN PILLEK - 61

MARK TROUT - 68

JOHN MARTIN - 64

BUD MARKS - 64

JACK GROTH - 65

DOUG NIRMAYER - 65

CHARLES FUNCK - 65

Bylaws/National Encampment Meeting
3rd March 2001

The meeting was called to order at 1300 hrs and a roll call of members was made.

A roll call of camps was made. The following camps were present 62, 64, 65, 66, 68.

Discussed the medals that were to be given out. It will be the Missouri medal from 1887 and it will have the auxiliaries listed on the back of it. Discussed how many medals to order. National suggested 400.

Discussed the ribbons that were to be worn. They are to be gold or yellow material with black lettering.

C. Funck is getting a price on coffee cups. They will have the Missouri medal on the front and the National organizations listed on the back. They will be 4 color. The price will be on 2 lots of 288 cups and 3 lots of 432 cups.

The SVR will need a small banquet room for their breakfast on Saturday morning at 7AM for about 30 to 40 members. It will be held in the Arkansas Room.

Jack Grothe suggested we join the Central Region Conference. The cost is \$5.00. Council members Rutherford & Grothe approved it.

C. Funck presented a bill for the Commander in Chief 's gift for the 2000 National Encampment. The cost was \$30.00. Council members Rutherford and Grothe approved it.

Checking on prices for banquet tables for vendors.

20 loyalty bonds were issued to the camps. More bonds will be made up for the rest of the members.

On Thursday there will be a tour of Springfield and several programs for the members that arrive early.

Friday night campfire will have a ladies fashion show and the men will show uniforms from several war periods.

The Department Encampment will be held in St. Louis in June. We will have the meeting and then a banquet afterwards. Information to follow as soon as the meeting place is reserved.

The next bylaws/National Encampment meeting will be 28th April at 10 AM. We are trying to have it in Columbia at the library. Will let members know as soon as possible.

The meeting is adjourned at 1600 hrs so we can go to the hotel and look at their accommodations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert M. Petrovic PDC".

Robert M. Petrovic PDC
Secretary/Treasurer

Bylaws/National Encampment Meeting

APRIL 28th ~~March~~ 2001
Columbia MO.

The meeting was called to order at 1400 hrs. and a roll call of camps and members was made. Camp 62 Vern Stottlemyre, camp 64 John Martin, camp 65 Charlie Funck, and camp 68 Don Palmer, Bob Petrovic were present.

Discussed Department bylaws and made changes to conform to National's bylaws. Finished bylaws.

Department Encampment will be June 23rd at 12 noon at Tesson Ferry library. All members present agreed.

Discussed the National Encampment.

John Martin was told to order the ribbons. They will be gold with black lettering.

Discussed the coffee cups but nothing was decided because of the price.

Discussed the medals but nothing was decided.

The meeting was adjourned at 1600 hrs.

Robert M. Petrovic

Robert M. Petrovic PDC
Secretary/Treasurer

National Encampment Meeting
9th June 2001
Washington MO>

The meeting was called to order at 1700 hrs. and the following members were present. V. Stottlemire camp 62, J. Rutherford camp 66, D. Palmer & B. Petrovic camp 68

John Martin is in charge of ribbons. A change was sent to him for the Ladies of the GAR. Opal Nelson was the change.

Hermann Werks Inc. delivered 400 medals. The lettering on front and back was correct. We will sell extra medals for \$10.00 each

Camps and members may put literature in the goody bags that are to be given out at the encampment.

Tables in the display room are as follows. 1 for Springfield, 1 for the Department, 2 for the GAR posts in Missouri, 4 for Roger Heiple's display. Vendor tables in the lobby are \$15.00 each. Tables in the display room are \$25.00 if available.

Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau donate ID cards for the ribbons and the plastic holders. J. Rutherford is in charge of name tags for the ID cards

Discussed buying red Host ribbons for the workers. B. Petrovic will check on this.

Check on name tags that Ben Harrison camp is selling. Need 6 name tags and the Department will pay for them.

Echos of the South will be the band for the banquet. J. Rutherford is checking on them. The campfire will feature a parade of soldiers with different uniforms and a ladies fashion show.

The Department will pay for the banquet for the following. Bill Piston and the Confederate Commander in Chief. The department will also pay for the tour if the Confederate commander arrives in time.

Try to change the time for registration to 12 to 3 and 6 to 10.

B. Petrovic will check on tickets for the tour and banquet.

Gifts for the 2 National officers are donated by the Phelps Camp.

On the front of the program book we will have the state outline, the badge will be in the center of the state and where it all began on the bottom. On the rear of the book we will try to have a copy of the original charter.

On the campfire banquet program we will have a copy of a postcard. B. Petrovic will supply this.

We need 252 cups for the banquet. They will be white cups with blue lettering and have just the medallion on the front and the 3 National Organizations on the rear.

OK to buy envelopes for the encampment.

Meeting adjourned at 1930 hrs.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert M. Petrovic".

Robert M. Petrovic PDC
Secretary/Treasurer

Missouri Department Encampment
June 23, 2001
St. Louis, MO.

Meeting opened at 1300 hrs.

The following camps were present. Camp 61 had 2 members present, 62 had 1 member, 64 had 1 member, 65 had 6 members, 66 had 1 member and 68 had 2 members present.

Roll call of officers with all officers present.

Minutes given out to all camps of previous meetings.

Minutes of the March 3rd meeting were approved.

Minutes of the April 28th meeting were approved.

Minutes of the June 9th meeting were approved.

Treasurers report given. The books were audited and approved by Jack Grothe & Paul Leistritz. A copy of the treasurer's report will be given to all camps.

Correspondence read. Letters from Brothers wanting the Departments support for National offices.

New Palmer camp 73 was discussed. All the paperwork is at National and getting approved. Charter may be given to them at the National Encampment and their new members sworn in at this time.

Applications for 2 new members were given to Phelps camp. They are the closest camp to the members.

Break from 1430 hrs. to 1445 hrs.

Department officers gave their reports.

Department per capita tax will be tabled until the first meeting after the National Encampment.

Motion to have the date, time, and location of the Next Department encampment fixed at the present one. Tabled until the next meeting.

Meeting suspended at 1530 hrs. to discuss the National Encampment in Springfield. Minutes taken and will be given to all camps.

Meeting resumed at 1630 hrs.

Nomination of Officers

Department Commander, John Martin Declined
Don Palmer Accepted
Don Palmer Commander

Department Sr. Vice Commander, John Martin Accepted
John Martin Sr. Vice Commander

Department Jr. Vice Commander, Charles Funck Accepted
John Pillers Accepted
Secret Ballot, Charles Funck 5 Votes
John Pillers 6 votes
John Pillers Jr. Vice Commander

Council of Administration, Charles Funck Accepted
Charles Funck on the Council for 2 years.

New Department officers were sworn in by Vern Stottlemyre.

Meeting adjourned at 1700 hrs.

Robert M. Petrovic PDC
Dept. of Missouri Sec/Treas

Encampment Minutes
6/23/2001

The meeting was opened at 1530 hours.

Discussed the tour, the price is \$25.00 which includes a light meal.

Roger Heipel will have 4 tables in the display room to set up his display.

John Martin is taking care of the ribbons. He will have the bill sent to R. Petrovic to be paid.

Members or camps may put information in the goody bags.

There will be 3 programs. Need 250 pieces for each. They are the Memorial Service, Campfire and Banquet.

Ads for the program book must be post marked no later then 7/15/2001.

The medals are in and cost us \$2.29 each. We need about 250 medals but they sent us 400. We will have extra medals to sell at \$10.00 each.

The food for the banquet will be pork and chicken. The meals cost us \$19.95 plus a 20% gratuity for a total cost of \$23.94. The meals will be \$26.00 and we will make \$2.06 on a meal.

We will have the GAR altar and original Missouri charter to use.

P. Leistriz is handling the proclamation that we are getting.

We are going to get 252 white cups with light blue lettering on them. Motion to have top bar and ribbon on front of cups, C. Funck and P. Leistriz. Motion Passed. Motion to have all 5 orders on the back of cups, J. Martin and C. Funck. Motion passed. Lipics was low bid at .99 a cup plus about .50 per cup for shipping. Setup fee of \$40.00.

Meeting adjourned at 1630 hours

Robert M. Petrovic PDC
Secretary/Treasurer

Financial Report
7/01/2000 to 6/23/2001
Credits

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Beginning Balance | 694.56 |
| Deposit 7/05/2000 | 394.50 |
| Deposit 7/10/2000 | 700.00 |
| Deposit 8/16/2000 | 275.50 |
| Deposit 10/19 2000 | 612.50 |
| Deposit 1/31/2001 | 638.50 |
| Deposit 3/05/2001 | 686.00 |
| Deposit 6/04/2001 | 778.00 |
| Deposit 6/04/2001 | 2374.50 |
| Deposit 6/08/2001 | <u>533.00</u> |
| | 7687.06 |

Debits

| | |
|--|---------------|
| #159 Secretary of State | 15.00 |
| #160 Montgomery 1st National Bank, CD | 1000.00 |
| #161 National Organization | 445.00 |
| #162 National Organization | 408.00 |
| #163 Office Depot | 56.99 |
| #164 Postmaster | 20.02 |
| #165 National Organization | 415.00 |
| #166 Jack Grothe | 5.00 |
| #167 Charles Funck | 30.00 |
| #168 National Organization, Palmer camp 73 charter fee | 25.00 |
| #169 Bob Petrovic, Mailings to Departments for Raffles | 65.25 |
| #170 National Organization PDC Badge | 56.50 |
| #171 National Organization | <u>487.00</u> |
| | 3028.76 |
| Minus outstanding checks #165, #170, #171 | <u>958.50</u> |
| | 2070.26 |

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Credits | 7687.06 |
| Minus Debits | <u>2070.26</u> |
| Ending Balance | 5616.80 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Checking Account has a balance of | 355.31 |
| CD at Montgomery 1st National | 1000.00 |

The books were checked and approved by Jack Grothe & Paul Leistriz

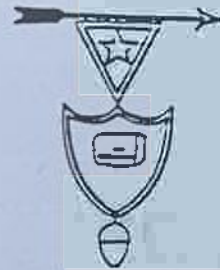
Robert M. Petrovic Sec/Treas



William T. Sherman Bill of Fare Camp 65

St. Louis Missouri

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Motions presented at Missouri Department 2001 Annual Encampment.

Annual per capita tax paid by the camps to the department, include per capita tax due the department and National Department.

The department divides this part being forwarded to National and the rest retained by the department.

This motion is only for that portion retained by the department.

When our department was chartered the p.c.t. assessment to the department was set at \$2.00 per man of the camps. In a department staff meeting this was increased by 300% to \$6.00. Understood to increase departments 'seed' fund for sponsorship of the 2001 National Annual Encampment. This special need expires this year.

Therefore: The motion, the 2002 department annual assessment per capita tax be returned to the prior \$2.00.

Motion: All members who are members in good standing in a camp of the Missouri Department or a member-at-large within the Missouri Department, who attend the 2001 National Department Annual Encampment are 'alternates' for the Missouri Department. There shall be no restrictions placed on this motion. This motion dose not supersede the elected 'delegates' of the Missouri Department.

Motion: Before the close of the 2001 Missouri Department Annual Encampments business session, the city or community and the month should be determined for next years department annual encampment. No less than ninty (90) days prior the month, the specific location, date, and time must be established. The Commander-in-Chief, Department Officers and camps should be notified.

Reason: The Commander-in-Chief, department officers, camps and individuals must have advance notice of our departments annual encampment in order to assure planned attendance.

Suggestion: Recommend that the incomming Department Commanders camp be the sponsorship of the location date, and time.

Robert M. Petrovic PDC
4729 Mehl Ave.
St. Louis, MO. 63129-1626
P# 314-892-2158 E-mail rpetro7776@aol.com

Council of Administration

I am running for the position on the Council of Administration. I am a member of the U. S. Grant Camp #68 in St. Louis Mo., Department of Missouri. I have been a member of the Sons for 16 years and have held several different officer positions in both the camp and department. I am asking for your support by voting for me for this position.

I recently retired after 41 years as a Captain on the fire department and in charge daily of 11 fire fighters and 3 engine houses. On multiple alarm fires I am in charge of 50 plus fire fighters.

I have more time to devote to the Sons because of my recent retirement and will be available when I am needed. I will make sure the Sons progress like they have in the past and to seek new avenues to achieve that goal.

- Joined the Sons, W. T. Sherman Camp 65 in December 1984.
- Elected Secretary/Treasurer in 1984 for the W. T. Sherman Camp 65.
- I was the Secretary/Treasurer 10 years for the W. T. Sherman Camp.
- 10 years as Secretary/Treasurer has the rank of Past Camp Commander.
- In 1995 helped form the U. S. Grant Camp #68
- Designed a line of merchandise (flags, banners, clothing) to sell as fund-raisers.
- In 1995-1996 helped form the Department of Missouri.
- 1996-1997 first Department of Missouri Commander.
- 1997 to present day Secretary/Treasurer for Department of Missouri.
- Filled out paper work and secured Federal EIN numbers, Missouri incorporation papers
And Missouri sales tax numbers for several camps and the Department.
- Formed an SVR unit and I am the Adjutant since it was formed.
- Served 2 years as National Eagle Scout Coordinator.
- Served 3 years on the Real Sons & Daughters Committee.
- Served as a member of the Ebay Surveillance committee.
- Served as Chairman of the Ebay Surveillance Committee.
- Served as a committee member on the 2001 National Encampment in Springfield MO.

Topic: SA MO Department of Missouri

Location: Department of Missouri

Department: MO Department of Missouri

Missouri

Camp 68/69

Location: Missouri

Department: Missouri

Date: Nov 05 2002

Page: 5



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department of Missouri

Office of the Patriotic Instructor



REPORT OF THE PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR 1999 - 2000

It has been an enjoyable task serving as Department of Missouri Patriotic Instructor this past year. The following is a summary of activities and accomplishments:

My primary objective during the past year was to establish a Department Patriotic Instructor's web site for the purposes of:

- educating the public on patriotism and the Civil War in Missouri
- establishing a resource for Missouri SUVCW camps to support camp educational programs
- serving as an educational resource for secondary school and college students to generate information to support classwork and/or research assignments.
- setting a standard for other SUVCW departments in setting up educational resources for their members and the viewing public.

This web site, the scope of which has since been expanded to include information pertinent to the department historian, includes sections on patriotism, Union leaders in Missouri, battles/engagements in Missouri, the Grand Army of the Republic in Missouri and miscellaneous historical information on the Civil War in Missouri. Also included are a Missouri Civil War travel guide, a section entitled Hallowed Ground and an archives for information generated through the activities of our organization.

In order to enhance the educational value of this site, I met with secondary school and college representatives to solicit inputs relative type of information that may be beneficial to their students. The goal was to have these representatives recommend our repository of information as a reference for those studying the role of Missouri in the Civil War. In meetings with individuals from Rockwood and Parkway School Districts in St. Louis County, it was discovered that the information that would be the most benefit to secondary school students would be the leaders, the battles and any historically significant contributions Missouri had in winning the war. Of special interest are those leaders that went on to hold state and national offices and had some influence in bringing the nation back together. In a meeting with Dr. Iver Bernstein of Washington University, it was mentioned that information on the political aspects of the Civil War in Missouri would be beneficial to undergraduate students. At the graduate level, there is interest in any state legislation introduced by the Grand Army of the Republic in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The completed site contains links to pertinent information on the National and individual camp web sites. The new site will be located at www.usgennet.org and will be linked to the Missouri Department web site located on www.geocities.com. It should be accessible within the next week or so. I would like to thank Scott Williams from U.S. Grant Camp #68 for assisting me with this aggressive project.



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Missouri



Office of the Junior Vice Commander

REPORT OF THE JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER 2000 - 2001

It has been an enjoyable task serving as Department of Missouri Junior Vice Commander this past year. The following is a summary of activities and accomplishments:

During the past year, the Missouri Department has brought in five new members-at-large. We had initiated the process for bringing Frederick Wilson, a real son, into membership; however, due to his declining health, this will probably not occur. The thought was to hold his installation in conjunction with the 2001 National Encampment in Springfield, MO. We should follow up with his nephew, Darrell Holt, a member of Stevens Camp #1 in Washington state, to monitor his progress.

I received 27 e-mail inquiries resulting from information on the Department web-site. I was able to provide information directly to 12 of these individuals. I forwarded the other 15 inquiries to those who were better equipped to provide the information requested. As a result of interchange with these individuals, 10 applications for membership were distributed; however, no new memberships were obtained as of this date.

One of my first tasks after assuming the office of Junior Vice Commander was to query a large number of friends and acquaintances eligible to join our organization about their hesitancy enter into membership. It was disturbing to find that with 150 members in the Missouri Department, we make up slightly more than 2% of the overall membership. Given the fact that Missouri was one of the most contested states during the Civil War, coupled with the fact that interest in the Civil War is still high, we should be one of the leading Departments relative to membership. Approximately 50% responded that they didn't have enough time available. Over 30% responded that their understanding was that the SUVCW was a Civil War re-enactment organization and were not interested. Obviously, the greatest obstacle is convincing people interested in their Civil War ancestors and Civil War history in general that becoming members will be worth their time. In today's environment, time must be looked at as an investment. What kind of return can be expected for the investment of time? We need to approach increasing membership from this standpoint.

I have thought out a number of tasks that should be performed to help the Department Junior Vice Commander perform his job more efficiently, and ultimately benefit the Department. These are:

- Generate a historical database of membership for the Department. This should include each camp from the time of charter and members-at-large. The Junior Vice Commander shall keep this as an integral part of his records and should update it annually.
- Track new member status on a quarterly basis. At the end of each quarter, a summary should be provided by each camp that lists new members, potential new members, frequency of contact and application submittals. We need to start documenting these inquiries and gain a better understanding of where the interest lies.



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Missouri



Office of the Junior Vice Commander

- Document interviews with inactive members so that we can gain an understanding of why members go inactive or leave altogether.
- Perform a department-wide survey to gain an understanding of what members would like to see the organization doing or doing better. This is important as it will help us pattern programs to keep the membership interested.
- Develop a Department-wide five-year plan for membership. We need to establish a formal plan that details recruitment guidelines for all camps in the Department to follow. As an overriding goal, I believe we need to establish a plan to increase membership to 240 members by the year 2006 to be more in line with the average Department membership within the organization.

These are aggressive measures, but I believe they need to be taken. Given the magnitude of these tasks, I will be willing to assist the incoming Junior Vice Commander to ensure that they are completed in a timely manner. As a Department, we need to move forward, and increasing membership is one of the most important metrics we can use to track our progress.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Palmer
Junior Vice Commander
Department of Missouri
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Missouri Department Meeting
September 29, 2001
St. Louis, MO**

Meeting opened at 1230 hrs.

The following camps were present. Camp 65 had 5 members present, camp 68 had 3 members present.

Roll call of officers. Commander Don Palmer and Sec/Treas. Bob Petrovic were present.

Minutes given out to both of the camps present of the previous meeting.
Minutes of the June 23rd meeting were approved.

Discussion on the National Encampment.

All of the comments we heard were good.

Give out certificates to Maggie Grothe, Cher Petrovic & Vern Stottlemyre for their hard work before and during the Encampment.

Tour on Thursday was great.

Need a table to sign up for the SVR breakfast.

Next years host department should take care of hospitality room.

Financial report

Send Echos of the South \$200.00 Motion E. Taylor, 2nd C. Funck, Passed
Send \$100.00 donation to the John Q. Wilds camp Motion C. Funck, 2nd J. Grothe, Passed.

Discussed getting a credit or debit card.

Bylaws

Gave out Department handbooks.

Will send guidelines to all camps which includes money items, flowers, etc.

C. Funck gave a presentation on officer's books.

D. Palmer gave a presentation on Missouri Vision 2010.

Mark Trout gave a presentation on the graves program.

Discussed the newsletter. It will be sent to all the department members, National Officers and possibly all Departments.

Awards program discussed.

Awards will be given out at the Department Encampment. Some of the awards will be for the best camp, best member, etc.

Commander will try to visit all camps at least one time a year.



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Missouri



Office of the Commander

DEPARTMENT ORDERS NO. 1 SERIES 2001-2002

19 September 2001

I wish to express my appreciation to the membership of the Department of Missouri for entrusting me with the leadership of the department for the next year. I wish to thank past commanders Petrovic, Leicht, Rutherford and Stottlemyre for their time and efforts in bringing the department along from its humble beginnings. We have been a department for five years and can no longer be considered fledgling. We need to push in directions that will strengthen department unity, build a strong membership base and increase our prestige in the eyes of our brothers nationally. I believe we have a team in place that can accomplish this, but it will take some extra effort. I would like to begin this odyssey by outlining my plan of attack.

1. First, the officers elected at the 2001 Department Encampment held in St. Louis on 23 June, are: Commander – Don Palmer, Senior Vice Commander – John Martin, Junior Vice Commander – John Pillers, Secretary/Treasurer – PDC Bob Petrovic and Department Council – PDC John Rutherford, Jack Grothe and Charles Funck. I wish to ask John Avery to again serve as Patriotic Instructor, Emmett Taylor to again serve as Department Chaplain and Bob Amsler to again serve as Department Counselor. I also ask that PDC Vern Stottlemyre serve as Department Historian.
2. As of July 2001, the Department of Missouri has By-Laws approved by the Commander-in-Chief. This was a major undertaking and essential in giving our department credibility. The next step is to develop a strategic plan for the department containing specific goals and objectives for the department and how we are going to meet them. I consider this essential in order for us to charter a course for success over the next decade. All successful organizations and businesses develop strategic plans. I would like to call our plan “Missouri Vision 2010”, which will help us define what the department will look like at the end of the decade. Key elements of this plan will include organizational growth, finances, community relations, department initiatives and support of national initiatives such as graves registration, Civil War memorials/monuments and GAR records.
3. Membership may be the single most important issue relative to our functionality as a department. As of June 2001, we stood at about 150 members department-wide. Although we have experienced modest growth over the past five years, we still make up only 2% of the overall SUVCW membership. Since Missouri was one of the three most contested states during the Civil War, coupled with the fact that interest in the Civil War in Missouri is still strong, I believe the Department of Missouri should constitute at least 4% of the overall membership. I am asking that Junior Vice Commander John Pillers, Chairman of the Membership committee, work with camp junior vice commanders and assemble a plan to increase Missouri membership to at least 250 members by the year 2005 and establish a goal for growth through 2010. Generating new members is only part of this plan. The other critical aspect is reducing the attrition rate of standing members. The most recent per capita tax returns show that this may be as high as 10%.



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Missouri



Office of the Commander

4. We currently have seven operating camps in the Department of Missouri. We also have camps being organized in the Columbia/Jefferson City area, Joplin and Washington. I would like the Camp Organizing committee to define, based on intelligence from all parts of the state, where camps should be organized and a plan to execute such. The ultimate goal will be to define the number and location of camps to target by the year 2010. The department also lacks an auxilliary. The most successful departments in the organization have functioning auxilliaries that provide invaluable support to the camps within those departments. I would also request that the Camp Organizing committee include in the camp organization strategy plans for forming auxilliaries associated with camps where support is strong. I am looking for a member to organize and chair this committee.
5. Secretary/Treasurer Bob Petrovic reported that the department has improved its financial position over the past several years and that no officer should bear the burden of doing business for the department any longer. As part of Missouri Vision 2010, I would like to assemble a financial plan showing projected revenues through 2010 based on per capita tax (membership), donations, merchandising and fund-raising activities. This will be essential in helping to sponsor a variety of department initiatives over the next decade. The financial plan should be developed by a committee chaired by the secretary/treasurer and includes the department commander and the department council.
6. It is important that we maintain awareness of legislative actions in the state of Missouri, especially in areas that impact Civil War history in Missouri and our objectives as an organization. I would like the Committee on Legislation establish a process for maintaining an awareness of activity in the Missouri Legislature, reporting items of significance to cognizant department and national officers and for correspondence with the appropriate representatives in the Missouri House and Senate. Two initiatives I would like the department to consider are the establishment of a Missouri GAR Highway and a GAR Museum in Missouri. Both of these will require support from the state government. Since we are a not-for-profit organization, we may be able to secure funds from the state to support these initiatives. I would like the Committee on Legislature to investigate the possibilities of securing financial support for these programs.
7. It has become obvious that we need to increase the visibility of our organization within our respective communities. Many people believe the SUVCW is a Civil War re-enactment organization and are unaware of our efforts to preserve the history of the Grand Army of the Republic and Civil War veterans who fought to save the Union. I would like to establish a special committee on Community Relations to coordinate a plan in conjunction with the camps to help the respective communities gain an understanding and an appreciation of our value as an organization. Some activities that should be considered include cooperative ventures with the Boy Scouts and veterans organizations such as the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, planned programs for elementary and secondary schools, collaboration with state and national historic sites and participation in state-sponsored programs such as "Adopt-a-Highway". I would like this committee to be chaired by the Department Patriotic Instructor, John Avery, with membership consisting of camp patriotic instructors or individuals designated by the Camp Commanders.



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Missouri



Office of the Commander

8. Graves Registration is one of three National initiatives we need to strongly support as a department. Although we have been supporting this on camp and individual levels, we need to coordinate all activities on the department level. I have asked Mark Trout of U.S. Grant Camp #68 to serve as Department Graves Registration Officer, chair a Committee for Graves Registration and develop a 10-year plan to document all Union Civil War graves and in Missouri in an organized fashion. The foundation for this plan should be based on a geographic apportionment commensurate with the seven camp locations. Each Camp Commander should identify a focal point for this activity.
9. Civil War Memorials is another National initiative that requires our support. There has been some activity in Missouri over the past two years in support of this initiative, but I don't know where we stand. I am looking for a volunteer to chair a committee for Civil War Memorials in Missouri and operate in a manner similar to that established for graves registration. The number of memorials/monuments in Missouri will be far less than the number of graves, and therefore, I believe the documentation phase should be completed within five years. The second phase, periodic condition monitoring, should be considered for out-years.
10. GAR Post Records is the third National initiative that we need to grasp. Through the efforts of Doug Niermeyer of the William T. Sherman Camp #65 and PDC Vern Stottlemeyer, a complete list of over 500 GAR posts in Missouri was compiled and submitted to the National committee on GAR Post Records. We now need to launch an initiative I designated as "Show-Me the GAR", which is designed to document the specific meeting locations of these GAR Posts, photograph the location if it still exists, and work with local historical societies to locate records associated with each post. I would like either Doug or Vern to chair the Show-Me the GAR committee and develop a 10-year plan to complete this initiative. Like the Graves Registration effort, the foundation for this plan should be based on a geographic apportionment commensurate with the seven camp locations. Each Camp Commander should identify a focal point for this activity as well.
11. Now that the foundation for "Missouri Vision 2010" has been outlined, I would like to touch on several other items. First, I would like to generate a department newsletter for distribution to the camps within Missouri, Department Commanders and the Commander-in-Chief. Some of the camps within the department already generate excellent camp newsletters, but I think it's important for the Department to produce one so that camps within the state are aware of what their brethren are doing. It also provides a means to share our experiences with other departments as well as inform the national organization of items of significance on a regular basis. I am proposing the newsletter be titled, "Missouri Unionist", but I am still open to suggestions. As Department Commander, I will serve as editor of the newsletter, with publication dates for the next year as follows:
 - 31 October 2001 (inputs must be received by 15 October)
 - 31 January 2002 (inputs must be received by 15 January)
 - 30 April 2002 (inputs must be received by 15 April)
 - 31 July 2002 (inputs must be received by 15 July)



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Missouri



Office of the Commander

12. In order to provide incentives for camps and members within the department, I would like to initiate an awards program for "best camp" and "most valuable member". My thoughts are to name the award for best camp after Gen. Nathaniel Lyon, who was generally credited with saving Missouri for the Union. This award shall be based on a points system, with each camp accumulating points for new members, graves registered, post records identified, community support, etc. I was also considering naming the award for most valuable member after Gen. Francis Blair, who served Missouri well in uniform and in the legislature. This award will be based on nominations and will be selected by the Awards committee, a three-member panel appointed by the Department Commander. These awards should be presented at the annual Department Encampment. The committee shall also determine the form of the awards (certificate, trophy, medal, etc.) and ensure their readiness for presentation at the Department Encampment.
13. The 2002 Department Encampment will be held in St. Louis at a date to be determined. I would like to make the Department Encampment more of an event that what we had in the past. Some of the more successful departments hold their encampments over a weekend and includes an encampment dinner and entertainment, along with a full day for the meeting. I would like to establish a committee consisting of PDC Bob Petrovic, Council member Jack Grothe and I to plan and execute the 2002 Department Encampment.
14. My plan is to be an active Department Commander. As such, I would like to attend at least one meeting of every camp in the Department during my term in office. I believe this is important in order to meet members throughout the state and give the department visibility within the camps. Given this, I would like Camp Commanders to send the meeting location for their respective camp and designated meeting dates through May 2002.
15. I am calling for a Special Department Meeting to be held on Saturday, 29 September from 12:00 to 4:00 at the Tesson Library in St. Louis. The discussion will focus on Missouri Vision 2010 and other proposed department initiatives along with wrap-up discussions relative to the recently concluded National Encampment, issues relating to the current per capita tax and appointment of committee chairs.

By Order of:

Donald D. Palmer, Jr.
Department Commander
19 September 2001

Subj: **GREETINGS**
Date: 11/02/2001 12:14:12 AM Central Standard Time
From: [Pondook](#)
To: [RPetro7776](#), [JAvery1129](#)

Bob/John:

Here are my greetings from the Department for the dedication ceremony this Saturday:

I wish to extend greetings from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Missouri. One of our major initiatives in the department is graves registration; registering the graves of all ~~Union~~ veterans buried in Missouri. This is not a trivial task. Locating the graves of those soldiers buried in National cemeteries, such as Jefferson Barracks, is easy. However, most of the ~~Union~~ veterans, like H. William Horstmann, are buried in private cemeteries, such as this. This is why cooperation from local historical societies and residents with an appreciation for historical preservation is essential. We cannot begin to express our gratitude for the support that Wildwood has provided to date. We hope that this is the beginning of a lasting partnership.

Don Palmer
Commander
Department of Missouri
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Thanks guys....and hope the dedication goes well.

Don